

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. An apparatus comprising:  
a portable wireless device to receive traffic information from a wireless transmitter; and  
a display to display the traffic information on a map.
2. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the traffic information corresponds to at least one of the following:  
a paging transmission, a frequency modulation sub-carrier radio transmission, an amplitude modulation radio transmission, a short wave radio transmission, a microwave transmission, a satellite transmission, a Wireless Application Protocol transmission, a bluetooth transmission, a packet-based transmission, a digital transmission, a Global System for Mobile Communications transmission, a Time Division Multiple Access transmission, a Code-Division Multiple Access transmission, an Advance Mobile Phone Service transmission, a Personal Communications Service transmission, and a Short Message Service transmission.
3. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the display comprises:  
at least one of a static map and a scrolling map.
4. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the display comprises:  
a roadway condition indicator.
5. The apparatus of Claim 4, comprising:  
multiple roadway condition indicators, each one simultaneously relating to a different direction of traffic flow on the same roadway.

6. The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein the roadway condition indicator comprises:

at least one of a color, an icon, and a text message.

7. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the display comprises:

an input.

8. The apparatus of Claim 7, wherein the input comprises:

at least one of a directional input, a scroll input, a zoom input, a color input, a "save altered map" input, a "set history save data" input, and a "create best route" input.

9. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

a mounting device to releasably couple the apparatus to a vehicle.

10. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

a communication port to enable communication between the apparatus and at least one of an in-vehicle computer system, a desktop computer, a laptop computer, a hand-held computer, a single-board computer, an input device, a storage device, a display, and a peripheral device.

11. A system comprising:

a wireless transmitter to transmit traffic information;  
a portable wireless device to receive the traffic information from the wireless transmitter; and  
a display to display the traffic information on a map.

12. The system of Claim 11, wherein the traffic information corresponds to at least one of the following:

a paging transmission, a frequency modulation sub-carrier radio transmission, an amplitude modulation radio transmission, a short wave radio transmission, a microwave transmission, a satellite transmission, a Wireless Application Protocol transmission, a bluetooth transmission, a packet-based transmission, a digital transmission, a Global System for Mobile Communications transmission, a Time Division Multiple Access transmission, a Code-Division Multiple Access transmission, an Advance Mobile Phone Service transmission, a Personal Communications Service transmission, and a Short Message Service transmission.

13. The system of Claim 11, wherein the display comprises:

at least one of a static map and a scrolling map.

14. The system of Claim 11, wherein the display comprises:

a roadway condition indicator.

15. The system of Claim 14, comprising:

multiple roadway condition indicators, each one simultaneously relating to a different direction of traffic flow on the same roadway.

16. The system of Claim 14, wherein the roadway condition indicator comprises:

at least one of a color, an icon, and a text message.

17. The system of Claim 11, wherein the display comprises:

an input.

18. The system of Claim 17, wherein the input comprises:

at least one of a directional input, a scroll input, a zoom input, a color input, a "save altered map" input, a "set history save data" input, and a "create best route" input.

19. The system of Claim 11, further comprising:  
a mounting device to releasably couple the apparatus to a vehicle.

20. The system of Claim 11, further comprising:  
a communication port to enable communication between the apparatus and at least one of an in-vehicle computer system, a desktop computer, a laptop computer, a hand-held computer, a single-board computer, an input device, a storage device, a display, and a peripheral device.

21. A method comprising:  
receiving traffic information on a portable wireless device; and  
displaying the traffic information on a map on a display of the wireless device.

22. The method of Claim 21, further comprising:  
prior to displaying, updating a database associated with the portable device with the traffic information.

23. The method of Claim 21, wherein displaying comprises:

indicating a roadway condition on the map.

24. The method of Claim 23, wherein indicating comprises:

indicating multiple roadway conditions, each one simultaneously relating to a different direction of traffic flow on the same roadway.

25. The method of Claim 23, wherein indicating comprises:  
assigning at least one of a color, an icon, and a text message to a roadway condition to be indicated.
26. The method of Claim 21, further comprising:  
manipulating the display with an input.
27. The method of Claim 26, wherein manipulating comprises:  
actuating at least one of a directional input, a scroll input, a zoom input, and a color input.
28. The method of Claim 21, further comprising:  
saving traffic information and a time and date associated with the saved traffic information.
29. The method of Claim 28, further comprising:  
creating a route based on the saved traffic information and time and date associated with the saved traffic information.
30. The method of Claim 21, further comprising:  
releasably coupling the portable wireless device to a vehicle.
31. The method of Claim 21, further comprising:  
sending a text message to a user on a network.
32. The method of Claim 21, further comprising:  
transmitting the traffic information to the portable wireless device via a wireless transmission.
33. The method of Claim 32, further comprising:

at least one of enabling the device to display traffic information and disabling an ability of the device to display traffic information.

34. A machine-readable medium containing instructions that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

receiving traffic information on a portable wireless device; and

displaying the traffic information on a map on a display of the wireless device.

35. The machine-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein displaying comprises:

indicating a roadway condition on the map.

36. The machine-readable medium of Claim 35, wherein indicating comprises:

indicating multiple roadway conditions, each one simultaneously relating to a different direction of traffic flow on the same roadway.

37. The machine-readable medium of Claim 35, wherein indicating comprises:

assigning at least one of a color, an icon, and a text message to a roadway condition to be indicated.

38. The machine-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein the operations further comprise:

altering an appearance of the display in response to actuation of at least one of a directional input, a scroll input, a zoom input, and a color input.

39. The machine-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein the operations further comprise:

saving traffic information and a time and date associated with the saved traffic information.

40. The machine-readable medium of Claim 39, wherein the operations further comprise:

creating a route based on the saved traffic information and time and date associated with the saved traffic information.